## Her Excellency Audrey P. Marks Ambassador and Permanent Representative <u>of Jamaica to the United States of America</u>

Her Excellency Audrey Patrice Marks in 2008 became Jamaica's 13<sup>th</sup> Ambassador to the United States of America and the first to be appointed to the position twice and her country's first female Ambassador to the United States. She serves concurrently as Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the Organization of American States, where she is an important interlocutor at the premier hemispheric forum for political discussion, policy analysis and decision-making in Western Hemisphere affairs.

Well-recognized for her outstanding diplomatic representation of Jamaica in the United States and the Western Hemisphere, Ambassador Marks is also a distinguished and trailblazing business leader and has had the honour of serving as the first female President of the American Chamber of Commerce of Jamaica during which she brought greater focus on increasing investment and trade between the United States and Jamaica.

Her many entrepreneurial ventures are hallmarked by the cultivation of a 100acre farm for banana export, commercial transportation, and real estate development. She also founded Paymaster (Jamaica) Limited, the first multipayment system in the Caribbean which today serves over 1.7 million customers online and through 200 locations.

Ambassador Marks has been bestowed with numerous accolades, including an honorary Doctor of Laws from the Northern Caribbean University in 2012 and the Florida International University Business Leader of the Year Award for 2003 and 2010.

In 2023, Ambassador Marks was conferred an honorary doctorate degree by the University of the West Indies which highlighted her "*unwavering commitment to nation-building matched by her outstanding record as an entrepreneur.*"